

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and listings.

1. - 48. (Canceled)

49. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus which is connected to an E-mail server via a network, said communication apparatus comprising:

a receiving unit, adapted to receive from the E-mail server an E-mail which is to be sent to said communication apparatus, stored in a mail box provided on the E-mail server;

a first obtaining unit, adapted to obtain size information from said E-mail server, the size information indicating a size of the E-mail stored in the mail box; [[and]]

a discriminating determining unit, adapted to discriminate determine whether or not to receive the E-mail stored in the mail box before said receiving unit receives the E-mail from the E-mail server, based on the size information obtained by said first obtaining unit[[.]]; and

a sending unit, adapted to send a command to the E-mail server in order to receive the E-mail corresponding to the obtained size information if said determining unit determines to receive the E-mail,

wherein, in a case where said discriminating unit discriminates to receive the E-mail, said receiving unit receives the E-mail, that said discriminating unit has discriminated to receive, from said E-mail server by sending a command, and in a case

where said discriminating unit discriminates not to receive the E-mail, said receiving unit does not receive the E-mail that said discriminating unit has discriminated not to receive, from said E-mail server, and

wherein said receiving unit receives the E-mail, which is individually specified by the command sent by said sending unit, from the E-mail server, the E-mail being sent by the E-mail server in response to the command,

wherein said sending unit does not send the command if said determining unit determines not to receive the E-mail, and

wherein, when said determining unit has determined not to receive the E-mail, said discriminating determining unit further discriminates automatically proceeds to determine whether or not to receive an E-mail that is stored in the mail box and that is an E-mail other than the E-mail that said discriminating determining unit has discriminated determined not to receive.

50. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 49, further comprising a controlling unit, adapted to, in a case where said discriminating determining unit discriminates determined not to receive the E-mail, send to the E-mail server an instruction for deleting from the mail box the E-mail that said discriminating determining unit has discriminated determined not to receive.

51. (Canceled)

52. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 49, further comprising a second obtaining unit, adapted to obtain maximum value information of a size of the E-mail capable of being received by said receiving unit,

wherein said discriminating determining unit discriminates determines

whether or not to receive the E-mail by comparing the size information of the E-mail obtained by said first obtaining unit with the maximum value information obtained by said second obtaining unit.

53. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 50, wherein said controlling unit receives only header information of the E-mail that said discriminating determining unit has discriminated determined not to receive, and stores, as communication history information, information obtained from the received header information.

54. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 50, wherein said controlling unit stores as communication history information the size information of the E-mail that said discriminating determining unit has discriminated determined not to receive.

55. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 50, wherein said controlling unit stores as communication history information a fact that the reception by said receiving unit of the E-mail that said discriminating determining unit has discriminated determined not to receive is stopped.

56. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 50, wherein said controlling unit stores as communication history information a fact that the E-mail that said discriminating determining unit has discriminated determined not to receive is deleted.

57. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 50, wherein, in a case where said receiving unit receives the E-mail that said discriminating determining unit has discriminated determined to receive, said controlling unit stores as communication history information the information obtained from the E-mail received by said receiving unit.

58. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 49, further comprising an output unit, adapted to, in a case where said receiving unit receives the E-mail that said discriminating determining unit has discriminated determined to receive, output the E-mail received by said receiving unit.

59. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 50, wherein said controlling unit sends to the E-mail server an instruction for deleting from the mail box the E-mail that said discriminating determining unit has discriminated determined to receive, after said receiving unit receives that E-mail.

60. (Currently Amended) A communication method for a communication apparatus connected to an E-mail server via a network, said method comprising:

a receiving step, of receiving from the E-mail server an E-mail which is to be sent to the communication apparatus, stored in a mail box provided on the E-mail server;

a first obtaining step, of obtaining size information from the E-mail server, the size information indicating a size of the E-mail stored in the mail box; [[and]]

a discriminating determining step, of discriminating determining whether or not to receive the E-mail stored in the mail box before the E-mail is received from the E-mail server in said receiving step, based on the size information obtained in said first obtaining step[[,]]; and

a sending step, of sending a command to the E-mail server in order to receive the E-mail corresponding to the obtained size information if it is determined to receive the E-mail in said determining step,

wherein, in a case where it is discriminated in said discriminating step to receive the E-mail, the E-mail is received from the E-mail server by sending a command in said receiving step, and in a case where it is discriminated in said discriminating step not to receive the E-mail, the E-mail is not received from the E-mail server, and

wherein the E-mail which is individually specified by the command sent in said sending step is received from the E-mail server in said receiving step, the E-mail being sent by the E-mail server in response to the command,

wherein the command is not sent in said sending step if it is determined not to receive the E-mail in said determining step, and

wherein said discriminating determining step includes, when it has been determined not to receive the E-mail in said determining step, a step of further discriminating automatically proceeding to determine whether or not to receive an E-mail that is stored in the mail box and that is an E-mail other than the E-mail that it has been discriminated determined not to receive in said discriminating determining step.

61. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to Claim 60, further comprising a controlling step, of, in a case where it is discriminated determined in said discriminating determining step not to receive the E-mail, sending to the E-mail server an instruction for deleting the E-mail from the mail box.

62. (Canceled)

63. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to Claim 60, further comprising a second obtaining step, of obtaining maximum value information of a size of the E-mail capable of being received in said receiving step,
wherein said discriminating determining step includes discriminating determining whether or not to receive the E-mail by comparing the size information of the E-mail obtained in said first obtaining step with the maximum value information obtained in said second obtaining step.

64. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to Claim 61, wherein said controlling step includes receiving only header information of the E-mail that

it has been discriminated determined in said discriminating determining step not to receive, and storing, as communication history information, information obtained from the received header information.

65. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to Claim 61, wherein said controlling step includes storing as communication history information the size information of the E-mail that it has been discriminated determined in said discriminating determining step not to receive.

66. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to Claim 61, wherein said controlling step includes storing as communication history information a fact that the reception in said receiving step of the E-mail that it has been discriminated determined in said discriminating determining step not to receive is stopped.

67. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to Claim 61, wherein said controlling step includes storing as communication history information a fact that the E-mail that it has been discriminated determined in said discriminating determining step not to receive is deleted.

68. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to Claim 61, wherein said controlling step includes, in a case where there is received in said receiving step the E-mail that has been discriminated determined in said discriminating determining

step to receive, storing as communication history information the information obtained from the E-mail received in said receiving step.

69. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to Claim 60, further comprising an output step of, in a case where there is received in said receiving step the E-mail that it has been discriminated determined in said discriminating determining step to receive, outputting the E-mail received in said receiving step.

70. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to Claim 61, wherein said controlling step includes sending to the E-mail server an instruction for deleting from the mail box the E-mail that it has been discriminated determined in said discriminating determining step to receive, after that E-mail is received in said receiving step.

71. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to execute a communication method applied to a communication apparatus connected to an E-mail server via a network, said program comprising:

a receiving module, for receiving from the E-mail server an E-mail which is to be sent to the communication apparatus, stored in a mail box provided on the E-mail server;

a first obtaining module, for obtaining size information from the E-mail server, the size information indicating a size of the E-mail stored in the mail box; [[and]]

a discriminating determining module, for discriminating determining whether or not to receive the E-mail stored in the mail box before the E-mail is received from the E-mail server by means of execution of said receiving module, based on the size information obtained by execution of said first obtaining module[.]]; and

a sending module, for sending a command to the E-mail server in order to receive the E-mail corresponding to the obtained size information if it is determined to receive the E-mail by means of execution of said determining module,

wherein, in a case where execution of said discriminating module results in a discrimination to receive the E-mail, the E-mail is received from the E-mail server by sending a command by execution of said receiving module, and in a case where execution of said discriminating module results in a discrimination not to receive the E-mail, the E-mail is not received from the E-mail server by execution of said receiving module, and

wherein the E-mail which is individually specified by the command sent by means of execution of said sending module is received from the E-mail server by means of execution of said receiving module, the E-mail being sent by the E-mail server in response to the command,

wherein the command is not sent by means of execution of said sending module if it is determined not to receive the E-mail by means of execution of said determining module, and

wherein, when it has been determined not to receive the E-mail by means of execution of said determining module, said discriminating determining module is further for discriminating automatically proceeding to determine whether or not to receive an E-mail that is stored in the mail box and that is an E-mail other than the E-mail that it has been

~~discriminated~~ determined by means of execution of said ~~discriminating~~ determining module not to receive.

72. (Canceled).